St. Louis Bank Note Co

(1)

ANALYSIS OF THE SPRINGS.

Constituents	Spring No. 1.	No. 2	No. 3
Sodium Carbonate.	1.72	1.17	5.00
Calcium Carbonate.	1.08	10.63	11.43
Magnesium Carbonate.	14.12	15.43	16.21
Sodium Sulphate.	27.26	24.37	27.34
Sodium Chloride.			

By Prof. F. V. HAYDEN.

THE MONTEZUMA

ANALYSIS OF THE SPRINGS.

Constituents	Spring No. 1	No. 2	No. 3
Potassium.	Trace	Trace	Trace
Lithium.	Strong trace	Strong trace	Strong trace
Silicic Acid	1.04	Trace	2.51
Iodine.	Trace	Trace	Trace
Bromine.	Trace.	Trace	Trace
Temperature.	130° F.	123° F.	123° F.

U. S. Geologist.

Rates THREE TO FOUR DOLLARS PER DAY. AT THE MONTEZUMA.

Rates TWO TO THREE DOLLARS PER DAY AT THE HOT SPRINGS HOTEL.

CLARK D. FROST, Manager.

Late of LINDELL HOTEL, ST. LOUIS.

Special inducements offered to Parties remaining one week or more.

Las Vegas Hot Springs N. M. DEC. 12, 1892

Dear Brewster

I am delighted to see the enclosed article. How in the world did you get hold of it? Holterhoff is a fellow I've had my eye on for some time, but didn't know how to lay hands on him. Now we have caught him, I hope we may be able to keep him. He's an excellent thing to have on tap. I don't know of any possible new acquisition that is more promising than he. Is he in California at present?

If you have his address I wish that you would send it to me, for if I can I should like to meet him. The birds keep me busy though I have'nt so far met with as great a variety as I expected. Perhaps it is too wintry, for all of them, for at this altitude (6700-7000 ft) though it is so warm in the daytime, except in the shade, that an overcoat is unbearable, yet the nights are cold enough

to make ice-cutting an industry already under way.

I wish I owned a taxidermist, so that I could devote all my time to gun and notebook.

Time is scarce, so I must stop. Best wishes for the Jan. Bull., which however hardly seems to need them.

Yrs.
C. F. Batchelder.

C. F. Batchelder
Dec. 13, 1892

Riverside, Cal.
Jan. 11, 1883.

Dear Brewster

Your letter of Dec. 31 reached me this morning, and I am expecting the Bulletin every day. You speak cheerfully of your enjoyment of editing the Jany Bulletin. Don't postpone the April number for my return. I don't know when I shall leave this land of totos eaters, the climate is the most delightful I ever knew at this season. Don't talk of Florida, it can't compare with it. Birds are plenty, too, so I shan't hurry away. As to the April Bulletin, my advice is to start on it at once, and then if you want any help on proof-sheets from me, there will be time to send them back and forth. If you stir people up now to send in their matter, and stir yourself to write two or three popular articles, which the N.O.C. bye-laws ought to make one of their Presidents duties, I don't see why it can't be all accomplished on time. I managed to get on after a fashion with Cathorpes, without

porsion, though if other birds had not ~~too~~ distracted my attention I might have done better. I secured four. You speak of their song. At this season I heard only a single call-note, loud and penetrating. It could be heard a long way off, and it could not fail to be recognized.

I spent two days at San. Bernardino before coming here. San Bernardino is a disagreeable little town, while this is a delightful spot, and has a good hotel, at which two friends of mine were staying, so I decided to join them. Stephens lives about four miles out of San Bernardino and I devoted a day to hunting him up. I found him busy with an apricot orchard he is starting. It is not far advanced as he has had to do everything himself, even having built the little box of a house he lives in. I took a decided liking to him. He is a tall rather rough-looking man, but has very gentle manners, and seems refined & gentlemanly. His wife seems more like an average farmer's wife, but she was very kind and hospitable. I spent the day with him, looking over his skins, & walking about the neighborhood ~~and he~~ to be introduced to some of the birds. He seemed very glad to meet me, and wanted me to come and stay near there, offering to help me all he could by information about localities there for birds, &c. At present I am letting up on hard work, as I had a little too much of it at Las Vegas and at Tucson, where (Tucson) I made a number of skins, though out shooting only two days. I mean to rest a while and do some collecting in a leisurely way, and later shall probably go over to Stephens', and board in some farmhouse there and live on the fat of the land (nothing but fat) as long as I can stand it, and put in some hard work collecting. Very likely we shall go up in the mountains together and camp awhile, to get the birds that don't come down into the valley, though I suppose we shall have a snowy time of it. My address will be Riverside until further notice whenever I may be. I hope proof of the April Bulletin will begin to come soon. How is Mr. Allen? Is he any nearer beginning to work again than he was when I left home? When I was

in Santa Fe I saw Marsh, who said he had done some collecting for you. Do you know anything about him? He seemed like a reliable man, and is a college graduate (Amherst), but doesn't know very much about birds. If you should discover Holterhoff's whereabouts I wish you would let me know at once, as I should like to meet him if he is anywhere in this part of the world. Remember me to everyone, and write whenever you have nothing better to do. Perhaps you don't know how welcome letters are at such a distance from home. Remind Spelman that he hasn't written to me since I left home.

Very truly yours
Charles F. Batchelder.

C. F. Batchelder
June 11, 1913

C. T. Batchelder
Jan. 26, 1883

Riverside, Cal.
Jan 26 '83

Dear Brewster

I enclose some checks and money orders received from Purdie, & hope they will get there safely.

The Bulletin came a few days ago and I can now understand the enthusiasm of some of our subscribers who live in isolated places. Fossil's article I suppose was one of the causes of delay. It had not been heard of when I left home. What became of the new department of correspondence queries &c.? I thought that was finally decided that might at Allen's. I notice a few typo. (I must stop a moment to use a few California adjectives about this pen. It has broken my best stylograph

and am using the substitute)
graphical errors but nothing worse.
I hope the April number is well
under way, if you want me to read
proof, for I certainly shall not
return in time to touch it. I want
to stay out here ~~later~~ enough to see
Colorado. Can I see all the places
of interest there in April? I
wish you would give me points
about where to go and what to
see there.

I have come across Chas. W. Gunn
of Grand Rapids, Mich., of "Helminthoph-
aga gunni" notoriety. Do you know
anything about him? He doesn't
impress me very favorably. Heard him
described yesterday as a "supercilious
mucker", which is hardly an equiv-
alent term for a good ornithologist.
Birds are lively and musical nowadays,
even a Shrike sang to me the other day.
Regards to Club. It is late so goodnight.

Yrs. C. F. B.

C. F. Batchelder
Jan. 29, 1883 Riverside, Cal.

Jan. 29/83.

Dear Brewster

Yours of the 28th just received; and my prompt reply is due to the fact that the same mail brings a lot of checks + P.O. orders from Purdie, which I enclose endorsed to your order.

I don't shoulder the responsibility of the climate of the whole of this State, but in this part of California it is all that it is cracked up to be, and your cigars are doomed. I'll remind you at the first N.O.C. meeting I appear at. I've been loafing I thought at first. Still he isn't such a wonderful ornithologist as he seems to think.

I am sorry to hear that attendance is so poor at the Club meetings, but I hardly see how to help it. Can anything be done except to hold on and wait for better times. By the way don't forget Coy's Petrel plate for the April number. It can't be put off till the last moment. I'm glad Mr. Allen has shaken up the Britishers on trinomials, it takes a good while to shake an idea into one of them.

Florida is a poor place.

Sincerely Yours
Charles F. Batchelder

along here at the rate of 25 skins a week, but I intend to go to work hard before long. I expect to spend a few days at San Diego, and intend to interview P. rostratus, and then shall join Stephens and put in my time energetically before starting off on a tour of the interesting points between here and San Francisco. I like your reviews in the Bulletin decidedly. I think your criticisms just what they should be. Probably the reason I don't agree with M. & B. about it is that I look at the matter from an impartial stand-point. I have seen Everett Smith's Maine list, and it is even poorer, fuller of mistakes, oversights &c &c than I expected. There's a fine case for a review!

Can't you do the Alaska paper in Cambridge with the assistance of Adams Ex. Co.? At any rate don't let the Bulletin be delayed after its brilliant ~~this year~~ start. I believe Dr. Coues has hit the tastes of a large number of our readers in his marvellous leading article. Gunn, whom I spoke of in my last, praised it to me. By the way he isn't quite so bad a bob as

C. F. Batchelder.

Mch. 5, 1883

California Southern R.R.
en route San Diego
to San Bernardino
March 5/83

Dear Brewster

Your letter of some three weeks ago would have been answered before, but that I have been moving about and very busy. I have just been spending ten days or more at San Diego, collecting and making excursions, including a run over into Mexico. One of my principal objects in going to San Diego was to look for Passerculus rostratus. I found him, and secured five specimens, though in the attempt I sacrificed about twenty of the common Passerculi. Which are they, by the way, P. alaudinus & P. anthinus? They are both very much more abundant than P. rostratus.

There are a good many water birds that are abundant about San Diego harbor, but local gunners have made them exceedingly wary so I didn't think it would be profitable to throw away much time in pursuit of them.

How long shall you stay in Washington? And what is your address there? Please let me know in case anything important turns up for me to write about.

My address after you get this will be Los Angeles, Cal.

I hear that one or both of the Jeffries are on the way to California, do you know what for?

Spring is opening in earnest now, and I am on the look out for arrivals from the south.

Sincerely Yours
Charles F. Batchelder.

HENRY HAMMEL. A. H. DENKER.

COSMOPOLITAN HOTEL

Main Street.

HAMMEL & DENKER, PROPRIETORS.

Los Angeles, Cal. March 22 1885.

C. F. Batchelder
Mch 22, 1885

Dear Brewster

Yours of the 15th is just received and your information about P. anthinus makes me very mournful. I had no idea that it was so valuable.

At San Diego, after I had made a few skins, whenever I shot one by accident I used to chuck it away in disgust. They swarmed on every side in the salt marshes. I ~~soft~~ frequently heard two or three singing at once, and I think I could have got fifty in a day if I had tried. I think if I had waited a little longer — I left March 5 — I could probably have got its nest as the sexual organs of my specimens were highly developed, which was not the case with the other Passerculi. ~~I~~ I wish I had known before, but now alas it is too late, I am nearly

you. Do you remember the "Morehead trip" that our friend Howard took with Wormwell, and the mystery about it? Here is the explanation.

P.P.S. Don't send my Bulletins to me.

two hundred miles away and bound in the other direction and time pressing.

The Jeffries brothers are, or were, at Santa Barbara where I hope to see them in a few days. I knew John was sick and supposed it was something of that sort. I only hope he may get over it. He would be a terrible loss to his friends and also if I am a true prophet to science.

I have been spending the last two weeks with Stephens and the better I know him the more I like and admire him. I enjoyed my stay there and added about ten species to my collection. We spent three or four days camping in the San Bernardino Mts. and had the pleasure of seeing three California Condors though we didn't succeed in getting even a shot at them. I got several birds new to me including Thryomanes bewicki spilurus, Passerella iliaca ——?, Cyanocitta s. frontalis, Aphelocoma californica, Oreotyx picta, none particularly wonderful I suppose but not the less interesting. My address for a few days after you get this will be Palace Hotel, San Francisco and then Cambridge Mass. after that Denver, Col. for a fortnight.

Ever yours C. F. B.

P.S. Your trip to Bethel reminds me to enclose a slip I cut from a paper last November and forgot to show you.

C. F. Batchelder (7)
Apr. 2, 1884

Cambridge, Mass.
April 20, 1884.

Dear Brewster

Ever since your letter of March 31 arrived, I have been intending to write to you, but have been postponing it hoping to be able to say something definite about my own plans. Since my return from Washington I have passed most of my time dancing attendance on a man who couldn't tell whether he should want my services, in the Engineering line, very much indeed, or not at all.

I have been expecting him

but I got four, all I saw. They were all single birds, two out on Marblehead Neck, and two among the beach grass at Phillips Beach. I think I never knew Juncos so abundant here in the spring. They have been about the house all the time, and I have heard of flocks seen by Spelman, Chadbourne, and the Bangses, estimated at from two hundred to a thousand in a flock.

Fox Sparrows too have been very plenty, but not in such extraordinary numbers.

I hope to hear soon as to your movements. Yrs truly

Chas F. Batchelder.

to say one thing or another so that I should know what my prospects would be of being able to join you.

At last he sent for me in a hurry, and I am now hard at work on plans for bridges, &c. How long the work will last is uncertain, but there is no chance of its coming to an end in time for me to go to South Carolina.

What are your plans? Are you still thinking of Maine, or across the line in New Hampshire, later in the season?

I should like very much to hear what you have been doing, what you are going to do, and when you are coming home. I hear that Fraser has gone to "Canada". Do you know what that means? I had a letter from Bryant of San Francisco lately, saying he was coming East this month and hoped to see me. We have been having a very early Spring, I should think three weeks ahead of time. There has been a good deal of rain, but much beautiful Spring weather. I only went once after Spanish Spinsters, March 25th,

C. J. Batcheldor
July - 1886
(89)

St. Moritz, Engadine.
July 19, 1886.

Dear Brewster

I have been waiting a good while expecting to hear from you, but have decided to give up looking for that phenomenon and write on my own account.

What an infernal wretch you are mixing up our well regulated fauna, as you seem to have been doing in Concord, from what Chadbourne says. Prothonotary Warblers and Red-bellied Nuthatches, &c. It's lucky you have a tolerable reputation for veracity, or it wouldn't be safe for you to tell such yarns. If they came from some anonymous writer in the O. & O. for instance, I don't believe you would waste much time over the tale. "W. B.'s luck" was Chaddy's comment.

What else have you been doing besides these captures? Extracts from

At it I met Seebohm, Sharpe, Dresser, and Nicholson among others. Sclater and Prof. Newton were not there. Nicholson sent some friendly messages to you, after learning that you were a decent sort of fellow and something of an ornithologist, which facts he elicited by some judicious questions. I don't believe he knows a great deal himself, but he was inclined to be pleasant. He is tall, slightly gawky, aged thirty or more, and appeared at the dinner in a light business suit. Dresser is a little man, light and active, looking quite youthful thanks to a delicate ~~complexion~~ complexion and a chestnut wig. He was very cordial, and hoped to see me when I came back to London, said he always had "a bed for a bird-man" at his place out of town. Sharpe didn't speak very lovingly of Agassiz and Ridgway, but expressed regret that he was not living in London, and said if I would name a day he would come up to town to

your notebook would be highly acceptable, especially at present, for I am sick nowadays. Some trouble in the bowels, that has bothered me off and on for a month or two, amounted to so much soon after we came here that I was obliged to put myself into a doctor's hands, and give up pretending to be well. I haven't been downstairs for a fortnight, and don't expect to be for a good while longer. If I'm really well by the end of the summer I shall think myself fortunate, and it's more than I expect. My eyes will not allow me to do much reading, and you can imagine how exciting life is for me just now.

Wouldn't I give something to be with you, bird-collecting in Concord, and paddling about the river in a canoe! Have you taken up a camera, or are the birds too absorbing? I should think they might be.

The only interesting item, ornithologically, that I have to tell is that Passer domesticus isn't nearly as abundant in London as it is in Boston or New York. I don't feel sure that ten to one would be overstating the relative numbers per average square mile of Boston and London.

You will hardly be surprised to hear how very kind Howard Saunders was to me. I called, left a card as he was out. He wrote me a very cordial note that night, came to see me the next morning, carried me home to lunch, showed me some of his birds, took me around to see Harting to ask him to take me out to hear some nightingales, as he was busy himself, then took me all over the Zoo, and ended by asking me to a meeting of the Zoological Society and to the B.O.U. dinner. The former I had to give up on account of an engagement, the latter I went to.

show me the museum. Seebohm was very pleasant, and asked me to lunch, unfortunately gave me a wrong address though by accident, so I never got there. On the whole, considering that it's even doubtful whether they had ever heard of me before, I was amazed at the cordiality they showed me.

P.S. July 31.

Somehow this letter didn't get sent, so I will utilize the remaining space.

The July Auk has just come, and naturally is welcome, though not a very exciting number. A score of new species and genera are excellent things in their way, but don't furnish light reading. I'm glad to see you are drawing the meshes closer around Ridgway's far fetched theory in re leucobronchialis. In your note on the Piping Plover isn't there a misprint? "regular if not uncommon fall and spring visitor" looks as if the "un" were not intended.

Why was Jordan chosen to review the

A. O. U. checklist? His contribution doesn't strike me as a very valuable one.

Stejneger is not a bad critic to set upon Shufeldt. The latter needs someone after him with a sharp stick most of the time to prevent his imposing upon himself and his readers by careless mistakes.

Can you tell me whether Clifford Brown is still in Paris, and what his address is? If we get to Paris this autumn, I want to be able to find him if he is there.

Since I wrote the first part of this letter, some ten days or more ago, there hasn't been much change in my state of health. The doctor seems to think I am improving a little, but my strength certainly has not improved during that time.

Hoping to hear from you whenever you can spare time to write,

Yours, C. F. B.

St. Moritz, Switzerland.
Sept. 6, 1886.

Dear Brewster

In looking over bibliographies and booksellers' lists to see what there was in the way of ornithological literature that I wanted to bring home with me, I have been much troubled by the periodicals; for a large proportion of the valuable papers seem to be buried in them, and of course no one but a Croesus could apply the simple remedy of buying full sets of each of them, and "extras" are probably next to impossible to obtain, especially of papers published long ago.

My first step therefore seems to be to find out which periodicals are to be found complete in our libraries at home, and therefore may not be indispensable to possess. Hence this

enough go on the back of the label. The only other important thing on the label is the name of the "collector". That last word is one I hate to write, for it never seems to have any meaning. Of course, as we use it, it has come to have a certain — or uncertain — technical meaning, but if you try to analyze its meaning you're bogged. Perhaps I worry over a mere splitting of hairs, but it seems to me unscientific to use a word in such a place that hasn't the very clearest meaning.

I had about settled on "Taken by" as a substitute. Still you have one difficulty before you even then. For instance, let me suppose some cases: (1) You go out and shoot a bird, skin & sex it yourself, then "Taken by W. Brewster" is strictly accurate. (2) Your companion, shooting with you, kills a bird, gives it to you, and you skin & sex it; is it "Taken by" yourself? If you aren't morbidly con-

letter. Could you manage, the next time you visit the Boston Society and the Agassiz Museum, to examine their libraries, and find whether they each possess complete sets of the periodicals in the enclosed list; and if not complete sets, between what dates and volumes they are complete? I name both these libraries, because—though the Cambridge one is nearer when you are in a hurry—the other is easier to carry books home from, a proceeding impossible, I believe, at the M. C. Z., unless for officials—I know you wont want to take the trouble to do this, but if the result should be the placing of any useful reference books within your reach, that otherwise wouldn't be there, it might make it worth while to have taken the trouble— If you think of any other important periodicals, add them to the list.

I have been spending some of my spare time lately— unfortunately I have a good deal of it at present— in meditating on the subject of labels. Yesterday I talked it over with Cliff. Brown, who, by the way, has been here all summer, though I didn't know it until a month ago. He has some pretty good ideas, but he isn't as "advanced" a labellist as I should have expected for a fellow who is so particular about expressing his ideas in print with exactness.

I suppose we are all agreed that the facts to be stated on the face of a label are to be limited to those important ones which you want to know the moment you pick up a skin, and that they are: species (including race), sex (and age, if that is certain), locality, date. Also that across the end of the label is a good place for the collection number, although that can well

C. F. Batcheldu
Sept 6 - 1886

writing now about these books that I am about to turn my face homeward. No, my reason for being in a hurry is that I want to have some books to read this autumn when I shall not be travelling, and as, if I buy one thing, I must get along without something else, I naturally want to plan out my book buying to some extent before hand. So if you can investigate the matter soon, I shall rejoice.

A letter has just come from Dwight, who seems to have been putting in some good licks among the birds in northern New Brunswick and at Cape Breton. I shouldn't wonder if he had some good notes for publication from the latter place. New ground, isn't it, practically?

Has Sennett spoiled things at all for us in N.C.? Shall you and I go there next season? I hope to be at home in time. I wonder if while I am away

I am going to hear from you only through the pages of the Auk. Have you forgotten the art of writing? Yrs. C. F. B.

scientious, it is true enough. (3) The next step is where your sportsman friend brings you a bird in the flesh, and you have to take his word for the locality & the exact date. In this case "Taken by W. Brewster" is certainly not accurate, yet you, & not the sportsman, are the authority for its sex. (4) You buy a bird in the market, and "Taken by" is still farther from the truth.

I have about decided to have two sets of labels; on the back of one "Taken by" printed, with a space for the name, these to be used where the bird was shot, skinned, & sexed by the same person; on the other

Shot by .....
Sex determined by dissection by .....

This, I think, would satisfy the most scrupulous, and certainly does convey more definite information as to the reliability of the specimen. I haven't elaborated the idea, and perhaps the wording can be improved. What do you think of it?

As to the arrangement of the front of the label, I think the common way of putting it in two lines, name and sex on the upper, and locality and date on the lower line, is good enough, but I should have the lines wide enough to make it possible to crowd a third line between, for cases where a long trinomial, or the name of a locality, was too long for a single line.

Cliff. Brown drops in to see me once ~~and~~ in a while. He talks of leaving soon, and taking a trip through Switzerland and perhaps Germany, and then going down to Italy for the winter, where I hope to see more of him. He says he may go home in the spring, but very likely not for a year or even two years from the present time. He says he isn't well, and never will be, but he looks in excellent health.

As for myself I'm getting on very slowly; still I'm getting on, which is something. Took a drive of twenty minutes today, the first time for two months that I've been out, except to crawl a few steps from my room to sit in the sunshine occasionally. Am hoping in a week to travel down to Lake Maggiore by easy stages, and stay there, probably at Pallanza, for perhaps a couple of months until fit for travelling again. I suppose we shall spend the winter in the South of France and in Italy.

You may have inferred from my

C. F. Batchelder

Sept. 30-1886

Pallanza, Lago Maggiore, Italy.
Sept. 30, 1886.

Dear Brewster

I was more than glad to see your handwriting a few days ago, and greatly interested by what you had to say.

I sympathize with you as to spring migration collecting. It seems to me to be almost a waste of time to shoot and skin spring migrants, provided they are species that can be obtained on their breeding grounds. Specimens taken in migration are practically worthless for comparisons, and I, for one, have come to look upon the spring migration as one of the worst — instead of the best — times for collecting. What I most want in my collection are good series of our common birds in the breeding season, when I can know where they really come from. That is one reason why I have envied so much your plans for this past summer. I am strongly inclined to spend a summer that way soon, and if my only aim were to build up my collection and make it available to work with, that would be the first ornithological job I should tackle when I come home. But the temptation of exploring new fields, and so enlightening the world — and satisfying my own curiosity — is such a strong one that I fear our own birds will have to wait until some season when I am tied down, by circumstances, at home, as you were this year, and that meanwhile North Carolina or other tempting regions will occupy my time — provided I ever get able to go shooting again.

No doubt I shall, but at present progress towards such a marvellous degree of strength is extremely slow.

What sensation are you going to work next, now that the Prothonotary business is used up? I suppose though that in another season at Concord you would manage to establish the bird as a common summer resident.

Seriously speaking, I never knew such a run of luck.

I'm glad you had Purdie with you, for his vacation, I suppose. I don't believe you could possibly have given him so much pleasure in any other way. I suppose he went back to his work with the wrinkles more thoroughly smoothed out of his spirits than has happened for a long time.

You ask when I am coming home. Like most things with me at present that is very uncertain, but I plan — and expect — to get back in time to get into the field next summer, and that means N.C., if you can go, and if it isn't cleaned out before then.

I have been pondering of late over ways of recording the number of birds of each species seen each day, and should like very much to know what light your long busy season's field-work has thrown on your views, and whether your plan has changed or not. Without the light of any new experience my ideas have settled back on the plan of a printed list and columns ruled for each day of a month, though with some slight modifications of the original scheme.

The enclosed scrap of paper will illustrate what I mean, though neither in style nor width of ruling, nor in quality of paper, would it be what I should

have. My idea is a page of the size I use for my field notes, ruled with the horizontal lines about as near together as in this, and the upright ones a little nearer. I think such a width would allow you to get a month's record on to one page. Of course the birds' names would be printed at the left hand side of the page, & to economise space I should put them in very small type and abreviate the generic names, if not the specific. One of the great drawbacks to having the paper ruled in columns with the day of the month at the top of the column, is the difficulty in running your eye up or down the columns to see what dates they belong to, and the consequent danger of mistakes. To avoid this I should have the date printed in exceedingly small figures at the left hand end of each square. It could occupy practically no space, and in fact there would be no harm if your pen occasionally went over the printed figures, in writing in the number of the day's observation.

An objection to having your paper numbered for the days of the month from 1 to 31 is that, supposing your observations at some place began near the end of the month — say the 22d — you would waste the greater part of a page, and so add undesired bulk to your notes. To avoid that I should have, instead of the numbers printed from 1 to 31, them printed with the first figure omitted, thus, the figures in ink representing the printed ones:—

Then you could write in the first figure in one or two cases, so as to make it plain whether the printed

My point is that in this way your page could begin with the 1st, the 11th, or the 21st of the month, according to the dates of your observations.

"8" stood for the 8th, 18th, or 28th of the month. I have indicated these written figures with a pencil. This way would also have the advantage of saving a little space.

As to the list of birds I would have printed, I should take, what would be most useful to ourselves, the list of land birds occuring in the eastern U.S., and cut out from that, not only mere stragglers, but also all that are not common enough for a man a month in the field to have a very good chance of meeting them. To guard against the chance of his happening on one or two of these omitted species, I should leave a few blanks in the list. By such pruning it could, I think, be got into two or at the most three pages.

Then I should have another page for waders, and one for sea birds, ducks, &c. Either of these could be used as an addition to the land bird list if engaged in field work at a locality where such species occurred in any numbers, but I think in nine cases out of ten in inland collecting the number of water birds would be so small that they could easily be disposed of in the blanks left for extras.

To come back to the fundamental argument as to the advantages of a printed list over a blank to be filled in with a written list of the birds as they are observed from day to day. This is my experience with the latter. You go to a new region. The first day in the field

with a list of only thirty or forty names; what is it then with a hundred or more?

Perhaps by this time you may have evolved some new ideas on the subject, and so have revolutionized the whole system of note taking, but if things remain as they were six months ago, I think this is a decided improvement, and a feasible labor-saving one. I forgot to say that I should have the horizontal ruling heavier than the upright, in order to aid the eye when you are afterwards looking up the record of any particular species.

What is the prospect of your getting your Umbagog paper ready for publication this winter? It is a shame not to do so, for you have worked the thing up to as high a degree of thoroughness as is practically possible, and meanwhile not only are you withholding a lot of information that the world wants, but bit by bit facts get published by others which forestall

Somewhat the valuable life histories that you have to tell. If you get it written, I think we can

You note twenty species ranging from one end of the systematic list to the other; these begin your list. The next day you add a dozen more, and so ~~on~~ on, and by the time your list has grown to a hundred it is a hopeless mass of confusion. You take it up to enter your records and the time lost in finding each species in the list would almost suffice to skin a couple of birds. With a list printed in systematic order you would save both time and worry.

It might be said that so much printing would be expensive, but it seems to me that "money is no object", literally, in a question of saving trouble and time.

I know I found the trouble a serious one in N.C. last winter

engineer means to publish it as an N.O.C. Memoir, which is certainly where it ought to appear. Let me hear from you soon as to these various matters I've written about, and tell me what you are doing and what is going on. Yours, C.F.B.

6-F: Batchelder.

Dec. 5 - 1886

Leghorn, Italy
Dec. 5 1886.

Dear Brewster

I have hopes that you will give this letter some attention, even though you haven't to the last two or three.

The last Auk has reminded me of a thing I have often thought of, and with no large amount of pride at the thought. In my opinion Thomas Nuttall was a good deal more of a scientific naturalist than Audubon, if he didn't paint beautiful pictures to make his name famous. And though people hoard up every scrap of rubbish that belonged to Audubon, and print every word he has written, yet no one has taken the trouble to think of doing anything of the sort in regard to Nuttall. A good many years ago our Club appropriated Thomas Nuttall's name to its own use, but it never stirred a finger to pay him the small compliment in return of giving the world any information about him, or even concerned itself to gather together for its own benefit what facts it might, about his life. It seems to me that it is something for us to be ashamed of, especially as there must be a good deal of material to throw light upon him, within our easy

Wishing you a "Merry Christmas", if it is not to soon to do so, Yours, C. F. B.

(11a)

reach.

Perhaps you know more about him than I do. My knowledge, aside from the most prominent omitted biological facts of his career, amounts to this: that he was born in England (?), was for some years a professor of Natural history in Harvard College, and that later he returned to England, and died there. Doubtless the parts of his life spent in England will be the hardest for us to find out anything about, but I am willing to take a good deal of trouble, and doubtless some expense, and to sacrifice some valuable time in the attempt to learn something of it, if you will give me a little help.

What I want you to find out if you can, is this:- where he was born in England and when, in what year he came to America, what year he returned to England, and the place there where he spent the rest of his life, also the date of his death. These facts I think you could easily find out from Dr. Gray, who, I should think, must have been his immediate successor in the charge of the botanic garden.

If you can send me these clues, I will, if I can possibly do it, when I am in England before I return home, visit the place where he lived, see if I can find any of his relatives and acquaintances, and hunt up all the information about him that I can. Furthermore I have a cousin who is now in England, who has a strong taste for genealogical and biographical

researches, and whom I hope to be able to enlist in the work.

His life in America, I think, would be much easier to find out about. I know of one or two people living, who knew him, and from whom a good deal could doubtless be learned, and probably we could from them get hold of others.

The chief point I am concerned about now is not to lose the opportunity of looking him up while I am still on this side of the water. It may be a good while before anyone else has the opportunity, and is willing to take the trouble.

It is not a sort of work that I am fond of, but I feel that it is a thing that ought to be done, and ought not to be postponed, for

the people living who knew him personally, must be getting old and liable to drop off any day.

If you don't take the trouble to answer <u>this</u> letter, and to find out the few points I spoke of, I shall have a poorer opinion of your energies than I have even had an opportunity to form in the last three months.

I am slowly convalescing; came down here from Lago Maggiore last week, and expect to go soon either to Naples or to Rome.

What is the news, ornithological or otherwise? All my Cambridge friends seem to given up writing to me for the present. Probably they suppose me dead; I understand some very gloomy reports about my health have been circulating there lately, about four months behind time.

C. F. Batchelder
Feb. 9-1887

Castellamare, Italy.
Feb. 9, '87.

Dear Brewster

Your letters of Dec. 22d & 25th reached me in Rome, where we spent from Leghorn Dec. 31. We stayed in Rome between three and four weeks, and occupied most of our time in sight-seeing, taking it in homocopathic doses suited to my limited abilities. From Rome we came to Naples about two weeks ago, joining the Swans, and with them left there today to come here,

What do you think of Mr. Lawrence's writing an article about a specimen of Bachman's Warbler and informing us that it was taken "last spring"? How many of these three dozen Bachman's do you suppose were really taken in autumn? Are you going to occupy the "manse" again next summer?

Yours
C. F. Batchelder.

if you can call it leaving Naples when the city is still in sight. For the first time for a long time I have a chance now to see some birds, or should have, if I had the strength to prowl about as much as I should like over the hills at the foot of which this little town lies. The few glimpses I have had of wooded places in this neighborhood lead me to believe that this part of the coast fairly swarms with small birds at this season, at least wherever there are trees to furnish a feeding ground. I should like to be

able to shoot freely for a week or two, and so make the acquaintance informally of the different species.

I am very much obliged for the information about Nuttall that you got for me. I hope to be able to work the subject up by the aid of these clues when we go back to England, and get hold of all the information that is accessible. Preston will not be a difficult place to visit, and as his death took place within thirty years there ought to be some people left who could tell me about him.

I'm sorry you are so overburdened with business affairs. It must be hard to have to give up bird work altogether. Your name doesn't vanish however from the pages of the Auk so easily as you imagine. Instead of its total absence, as you supposed, from the Jan. number, I found it it there eleven times, so there doesn't seem an immediate prospect of your being forgotten by the ornithological world.

I was glad the A.O.U. elected Dwight this year, but think Dutcher was not a very valuable acquisition. Padding in the membership is inevitable, but an inflated bladder is of no use, and is only a nuisance. Don't you think it is time that Chadbourne was made an Active Member? I had hoped he would be elected this last year. He is, I think, up at last to the average of the Active Members as a scientific

specimens which in the course of time would be replaced to some extent, whereas the former could not. records much more valuable than

ornithologist; and even if he should by-and-bye retire from active work, it is better in my opinion to have the ranks full than to have plenty of room for pushing aspirants like Dutcher or even Coale. We don't want noisy ignoramuses to bring discredit on the Union, and as long as there are many vacant places there will be danger of such men getting into them, no matter how severe a sifting machine we have. This is an argument that I should be more inclined to use to Chadbourne's friends than to those who might apply it to other's cases instead. Indeed, his real merits are, it seems to me, an amply sufficient argument for his ad-

I would humbly suggest a safe for the latter. A small fire inside of a fire-proof building is a possibility, and might happen to get hold of.

mission. If you agree with me about the desirability of his election, I would urge that you should take immediate steps to secure his nomination, if that is not already before the Council, for I believe with our present election machinery it takes a good while to put a candidate through, and by the time this reaches you it will be only about seven months before the annual meeting. Doesn't a nomination have to be on file six months beforehand?

Dwight wrote me he had a delightful visit in Cambridge, and apparently he imbibed an immense amount of ornithological inspiration while he was with you.

I'm glad you are going at last to put your collection in safety. It is far too precious to take its chances any longer in a dwelling house. I suppose you will keep your books and manuscripts in the museum too;

ranges between $5.00 and $7.00, with of course a chance of being compelled to pay a duty on it in passing through the Boston custom-house. Shall I get it?

Some time ago you talked of getting complete sets of the Ibis and of the Proceedings Zool. Society of London. Don't you want me to get them for you, and bring them home with me? I should be most happy to take what little trouble might be involved, especially as I foresee what a comfort it would be to me to be able once in a while to find them on your bookshelves. I should buy one or both of them for myself, if I could afford the luxury of owning them. I have inquired the prices, both

C. J. Rothschild (13)

Würzburg, Bavaria.
June 4/87.

Dear Brewster

As it's getting to be nearly half a year since I have heard from you, it strikes me that it may be a good idea to give you an excuse for writing, by sending you a letter about things that concern yourself. Before I left home you asked me to get you a copy of Gray's "Hand-List of Genera and Species of Birds". As my coming home was delayed, I postponed getting it, and now take the precaution, before doing so, of asking whether you are still in want of it. Three booksellers have offered it to me, and the price

must be a little quieter. I expect to return in September, so as to be on hand in time for the A. O. U. meeting. Are you on the committee of arrangements?

Yours,
C. J. R.

in Germany and in England, and much the lowest figures I can get are these: "Ibis – A complete set, 1859-84. The early volumes very ~~rare,~~ and nearly the whole out of print & scarce. Colored plates, 23 vols., half calf, price £.60. Proc. Zool. Soc., 1830-80, 33 vols., complete, 1300 plates – Edition with plain plates, scarce, £. 20. – Edition with colored plates, very rare £. 70."

As to the editions of the Proceedings with and without colored plates: From 1830 to 1847 incl. there were no plates; 1848-66 there were two editions, one with colored plates, the other without any plates; since then two editions, one with plain, uncolored plates, the other with most of the plates colored (exceptions: a few reptiles, fishes, & spiders). Of course the Edition with colored plates would be far more valuable for identifications, &c. The Proceedings & the Ibis are of course harder to obtain every year, as they

are out of print. I was surprised, on studying the bibliographies carefully, to find what a vast number of ornithological papers there were in the Proceedings, somewhere between one and two thousand is my impression. I suppose the vols. since 1880 could be got at about the regular subscription rate.

I wish you would enlighten me a little as to your own doings. Are you spending the summer in Concord again, or have you managed to get off on some trips somewhere or other?

And I am anxious to hear some details about the work of the collectors you have in the field. Just where are they, how long do they stay, and what are they doing?

I am glad to see that you have leisure enough not only to write most of the Auk, but to lecture to the Harvard Nat. Hist. Soc., &c. I suppose real estate

"Zool- Soc. Proceedings, with colored plates, from the commencement in 1830 to 1880 inclusive, with General Indexes, — vols. 1-34 bound in new half morocco, dark green, top edge gilt & the other edges uncut, — vol. 35 (1880) in parts, as published, = 35 vols (& 3 vols. of indexes bound in 1 vol. ½ morocco)- An exceptionally fine set-

"Ibis, with colored plates, from the beginning in 1859 to 1884 inclusive, with the General Index (1859-76) — vols. 1-26, half calf, and vol. 27 (1884) in parts as published, = 27 vols + 1 vol. Gen- Index (cloth)-

"The above are exceptionally good sets, they are scarce, especially the Zool- Soc. Proceedings, we do not know of any other perfect set for sale- This is a favorable opportunity of securing these valuable

C. F. Batchelder

July 19. 1887

In re P. Z. S. & Ibis

St. Moritz-Bad, Switz.
July 19/87-

Dear Brewster

I have just written Wesley (of London), giving him a final order for your books. He guarantees them perfect in all respects, and from what he says I should you were rather fortunate to secure them. The prices are, by the way, much below the figures given by German dealers to whom I wrote, though as a rule they are cheaper than the Englishmen.

I will quote Wesley's letter, received today: —

as that villainous climate, with its rain and fogs, is just the worst possible thing for such a trouble as I have now recovered from - Still I want the birds. I doubt, however, if I could stand the expense of having them collected for me, for I should think a first-rate collector, to work to best profit, ought to have a local gunner, if not a taxidermist too, in his employ. The point is: don't you want to go halves with me in such an enterprise? My idea is that we could divide the expense, divide the discoveries, and finally divide the skins. You can judge

"works," - an opportunity which may not occur again for a long time, possibly years.

I do not believe the above is to any great extent taffy, Wesley has always dealt squarely with me.

He writes he can furnish the later volumes of the Zool. Proc. "at a great reduction from original price", and of the Ibis "at half published price". If you want me to get them (or any of them) for you please write me at once to that effect.

Now for another matter. I had been meditating spending next winter on the California coast, collecting sea-birds, but regard for my health forbids,

It seems to me that if we should carry out such a plan, it would be well to at least secure the collector a good while beforehand; also well not to advertise the affair too widely, for fear enterprising institutions or individuals should save us the trouble of doing the work.

Well, what do you think of it?

Yours

C. F. Batchelder

I made a mistake in stating probable price of Gray's Hand-List at £5. to £7. I have got it for you at £.1:1:0. Unless I hear from you to the contrary, I will (if when I reach London it seems advisable and not too expensive) spend a portion of this balance in insuring the books for the voyage.

better than I, what such a thing would cost; my ideas on that point are decidedly vague. I think I could afford to spend $500. on my share, if I could be reasonably sure of the thing being a success. It seems to me it would pay very much better to have the thing done on a pretty large scale, for then we could get together series large enough to give a basis for something more than mere conjectures, which are apt to be the results of studying small collections. And although they would afterwards be divided, our respective collections are likely to remain

near enough to each other for easy access.

If the thing strikes you favorably, suppose you go ahead with the business; I am quite willing to leave to you all the planning of the details— localities, season, &c. The principal point, the man, I confess I am puzzled about, perhaps you may have the right one in your mind. Those that occurred to me were Frazar (supposing you may have done with him in Lower Cal. by that time) and W. E. Bryant. Stephens is out of the question; a tendancy to seasickness and a probability of his being in Central America,

are my reasons for saying so.

Besides there is an advantage in having a man who has had experience with sea birds.

Of course it wasn't my idea to limit the collecting to "sea-birds," as I believe I have been wording it. I meant water birds in general, for I suppose the shore-birds of the Pacific are a pretty rich mine yet to be worked.

If you ~~or~~ anyone else has had the Pacific coast thoroughly cleaned out during my absence, let me know, and I will turn my attention and my savings in some other direction.

C. F. Batchelder

Jan. 13-1888

re Scott's birds

Chicago, Jan. 13/88.

Dear Brewster

him ise communication with three persons in different places would be sure to breed disaster. When your descriptions of the new birds are done, put the ms. into Wheeler's hands (unless you want Allen to see it first) and let him send galley to Allen. I think that will be the most expeditious way.

I wrote Scott not to forward the other skins we ordered until he got the Turkeys. I thought in that way we should be more likely to secure the latter. I told him also to address them to you owing to my being absent.

Here is the list ordered with prices

Plegadis autumnalis ♂ [W. B., 1; C. F. B., 1] 2 @ 3.50 7.00

Meleagris gallopavo, ♂ [W. B., 1; C. F. B., 1] 2 @ 6.00 12.00

19.00

Will you please manage to have your annotations for Merrill's paper (if not yet written) ready within ten days from present date, and send them to Mr. Allen (his home address, 164 West 128th St, as is safest nowadays) as soon as done. I shall return galley proof to him, so that he can insert your additions before sending to Wheeler to make up. This arrangement seems to be the only safe one, as Wheeler could hardly be trusted to collate several proofs, and such complications as would arise from having

19.00

Polyborus cheriway, ♂ [W.B., 1; C.T.B., 1] 2 @ 3.50 7.00

Corvus floridanus ♂ [C.T.B., 1] 1 @ 1.75 1.75

27.75

Can you tell me yet what I owe you for those four cans, so that I can send you check to square our account? It seems hardly worth while for me to wait until these Scott birds come to further complicate the case.

Weather gets finer the farther west I get, & I intend to have it finer yet on the Pacific slope. Better pack up and follow!

Yours truly

C. T. Batchelder

Did you ever hear of Quail flying at night? One was picked up dying on the platform of our car late last evening. Perhaps he flew at the headlights (?) & so struck the train.

its author. You may feel very sure that this particular copy has not gone astray.

I should think you would look back upon the labor you have spent on the work with a feeling of great content.

With sincere thanks,

Yours very truly,

C. F. Batchelder.

April 10, 1895.

Dear Brewster

I should have written before to thank you for the copy of "Minot" I found waiting for me the other day, but I thought each day I should succeed in seeing you and thanking you in person. I don't know when I have felt so much satisfaction in receiving a "presentation copy" of a book from

Batchelder – C. F.
April 10th. 1896

Cambridge, Oct. 16, 1895.

Dear Brewster

I am awfully sorry to hear that you have been feeling so wretchedly. Hearing nothing about you, I had supposed that you were in flourishing health. A remote rumor reached me in the summer that you had been ill then, but I was led to infer that it was a trifling affair of a few days only, such as few people escape in hot weather, so I thought little about it. I have had a better record, myself, for I rarely have passed a summer with such uniform good health. I suppose the accident to my knee, keeping me tethered all the time, proved really beneficial by preventing me from indulging in any hard work. Outdoor loafing is sometimes wholesome.

As to the N.O.C. affairs, Michael left me so in the dark about your

plans that I was unable to do anything until I had heard from you. I did not feel sure, on the one hand, that you did not purpose closing the museum permanently, nor on the other that you were not making arrangements to have even the next meeting held there. In the latter case it was essential that I should know it, for it was necessary that the notices of the meeting should go out, and in White's absence the work of sending them has fallen temporarily on me. Hence the imperative haste.

I wish it were possible for us to meet, for I want to consult with you about the Club's affairs, and learn what you think will be for its best interests in various ways. I feel a good deal of responsibility at present — more than I like to carry without your counsel. The cause of

this suddenly increased responsibility is this. The members foresee, in case of even the most temporary suspension of holding meetings in the museum, the necessity of meeting in someone's house and the probability of my house being chosen, because of its accessibility and my readiness to receive them. Very naturally, under these circumstances, (but much to my regret) they are tempted to pay too much deference to my advice upon any question that arises or may arise about the meetings. The result is that there is more or less waiting for me to take initiatives, and that I don't dare open my mouth to express an opinion until I am absolutely sure it is correct, for fear others should be over-influenced by it against their own better judgement. You can see how I should be glad to have the

balance of power more properly distributed.

Of course to have its place of meeting uncertain from time to time is unsettling and not very wholesome for the Club's life, yet the more I think about, the more I am disposed to think that it may not be unprofitable for us all to have a little more time to think out plans for maintaining and strengthening the Club's activities.

We all feel that the best of its inspiration and its best guidance have come from you in the past, and that the best plans for its welfare now are likely to be those of your making.

On the whole I shall look forward with even more than usual interest to your return to Cambridge.

Sincerely yours,

Charles F. Batchelder.

Cambridge, 16 Jan./97.

Dear Brewster

I make the Schlüter account to be as follows:—

Due Schlüter (402 marks =)	ℳ 97.49
Transportation, Custom House, etc.	10.70
Commission, P.O. Money order.	1.00
	109.19

Your account comes to 340 marks; and as your birds average about the same size as mine, and are about as costly, I have divided the other expenses pro rata, according to our respective shares of Schlüter's bill. This makes your total indebtedness $\frac{340}{402} \times$ ℳ 109.19 = ℳ 92.35.

I find that in several cases the prices Schlüter charges differ from his printed price-list. In all cases but one (that of Phalacrocorax) the difference is in your favor, so it seems better as well as simpler to accept his account. I return your memorandum, modified accordingly.

I have today written Schlüter, sending money order to pay his bill, & telling him you are about to return the birds you mention.

Yrs. C. F. Batchelder.

Batchelder – D. F.
Jan. 16. 1897.

Batchelder, C. F.
Jan. 12, 1901.
Lacking.

I don't know how much you have heard of the further history of the case of "Hoffmann vs. the U.S. Treasury." I was not at the last meeting, but I understand the amendment failed to secure a three-fourths majority by a fraction of one vote.

Very truly yours,

Charles F. Batchelder.

(19)

Cambridge Jan. 12, 1901.

Dear Brewster

I am sorry to have left your note of Dec. 28th unanswered until now. My time has been so overcrowded with editorial work and other matters that my own affairs have been entirely shelved for several weeks. I fully agree that you should have some compensation for the expense you have been to, and I gladly enclose a check for the amount you name. The sum seems small, but I hope you may have sufficient appreciation of the generosity and benevolence you have shown in the matter to make up whatever of recompense may be

(20a)

Seal Harbor, Maine
June 10, 1901.

Dear Brewster

I have had a good many reasons for being sorry that your short stay in Cambridge this spring and my busy: ness and illness prevented my seeing you while you were there. One of the things I especially wanted to talk over with you was Bangs's proposition that the New England Zoölogical Club should publish papers for persons who were not members of the Club. I am afraid this question we shall have to decide now, without discussing it together, for Bangs has sent me a short MS. by R. H. Howe, Jr., (on a supposed new meadow mouse) with the request that it be published at once.

I have pondered a good deal from time to time, in the past few months, over the desirability of the plan. The arguments brought forward in favor of it are:— 1st, that we strengthen the publication if we increase the number of authors contributing to it; 2d, that we appease the desire of the persons who want to use it as a vehicle of publication. The first of these reasons is undoubtedly sound if the standing of the authors is such that they raise the average of the scientific quality of the publication, or even if, without actually raising it, they fully maintain it. If they are not men of sufficient prominence to do that, I think their contributions disadvantageous rather than advantageous to the Proceedings. To bring this part of the question down to the concrete, I don't think the privilege is likely to be asked, except by some of the beginners to whom other publications are not freely open — a class of which Howe, himself, is a fair example. The more

prominent men in other parts of the country all have their local publications, either entirely in their individual control or, at least, readily accessible to them; and they are not at all likely to need to come to us. I have ransacked my brain for names of men of any prominence, who are doing much work, who have not some publication more or less in their own hands, and I can think only of two or three ornithologists, and these two or three seem to find means of publication easy. So, the more I consider it, the stronger my conviction grows that the only persons to avail themselves of the opportunity would be some of the younger, less known, and less experienced men; and that their admission to the pages of the Proceedings would tend slightly to lower rather than to raise its reputation. On this score I cannot see that the journal would gain anything by wider open doors.

The other argument, that we should make the change because possibly two or three young men want us to do so, doesn't seem to me to have much point. I don't believe they would overflow with gratitude at our generosity; I even doubt that they would dream of feeling grateful at all; and if they did, I cannot see what tangible profit would accrue to the Proceedings.

In short until some man of considerable scientific reputation shows a wish to use our Proceedings, I can see no good in changing our rules.

In stating the case as it has appeared to me, I realize that there may be more sides to it, and that you

may have thought of other reasons for or against the plan, that have not occurred to me. If you have discovered new arguments, either way, I shall be glad,—for we cannot have too much light upon it.

I am sure you will realize that I have not been considering the matter from a personal standpoint. I do not in the least mind the little extra work it would bring me, and my only desire is the welfare and scientific reputation of the Proceedings. Also, I am heartily sorry that the question could not have been settled upon the case of some other applicant, before Howe's paper ever was written.

In deciding what to do, it seems to me that we have three courses open to us— (1) To positively reaffirm our rule limiting publication to the members of the Club. (2) To rescind it. (3) To defer making a change until we see more general desire for it on the part of working zoölogists. It is needless to say that I favor this latter action, as the most prudent and reasonable.

As Bangs favors the change and I have reached the conclusion that it would be a mistake, the burden of deciding the question necessarily rests with you. I hope you can find time to give it full consideration, and when you have decided it will let me know at once. I shall be glad to notify Howe of our decision as soon as may be.

Sincerely yours,

Charles F. Batchelder.

Batchelder, C. F.
June 10, 1901

today some postal cards which I shall send out to the N.D.C. members, announcing its publication and asking how they want it sent to them - I had to hold back the printing of these cards until I could be sure what date it was safe to put on them.

It is a great satisfaction to me to have seen this book completed and its contents available to every one, and I can imagine the satisfaction you must feel at having written it. You needn't worry about its shortcomings - they are certainly very trifling; and, as to what you quote me as saying of its literary merits, you can reflect that your "worst literary work"

Wild Harbor
North Falmouth
Mass.
July 28, 1906

Dear Brewster

It's needless to say that I was pleased when I learned from your letter of the 24th that the book was sure to be finished this week. A telephone message from Tenney a little later makes it seem probable that in the end he was even better than his word, and that your copies may now be in the readers' hands.

I hope to have from Wheeler

is on a level with some persons' best. I only wish, by the way, that I really deserved the kind things you say of what little I have been able to do to help you. I have enjoyed the work, and all the more so for the fact that there are very few persons that could receive utterly frank criticism in the spirit that you do. My chief regret, as I suppose you have realized, has been that physical limitations to the amount of work that I could do at a stretch have often made the work of printing move much more slowly than it might have done. However, with a work of such permanent importance, perhaps the exact time of its appearance is not of so much consequence, after all. To me, at least it is a comforting reflection!

I will make out your account of indebtedness to the Club, and relieve your mind, as soon as possible, but there is no need of hurry in paying it. The Club can perfectly well afford to wait some time.

Well, you have my heartiest congratulations, upon every ground, that the book is written, and published!

Sincerely yours,

Charles F. Batchelder.

MacGregor was the only Fellow elected, but four Members were taken in:— E. H. Eaton, W. L. Finley, Ned Dearborn, & O. W. Knight. All the old officers were reëlected.

The Council voted to incorporate in the Code Rule 30 of the International Commission, cancelling anything in the Code that conflicted with it; and to refer to the International Commission, for arbitration, any questions as to the interpretation or application of this rule upon which our Nomenclature Committee might disagree, should such cases ever arise.

One other matter came up in the Council, which it was agreed was urgent — the writing of memorial biographies of Merrill and Trumbull. As you have, I believe, all the

Philadelphia
Dec. 12, 1907.

Dear Brewster

My first breathing space has come this afternoon, at the end of the maddest whirl of gaiety that the A. O. U. has probably ever known. The zeal and spirit with which the Philadelphia men attacked the problem of a December meeting proved contagious, and everyone went in for having a good time with a violence that was truly astounding. Everything was a love feast, even the ballotings for Fellows & Members were prolonged.

~~the~~ necessary data in hand for the account of Merrill. I hope you will be able to take the papers with you when you leave Cambridge and will write the "biography" as early in the winter as possibles. I want very much to see it finished, and of course you know how strong the general feeling is that it ought not to be postponed any longer and that you are the one man to do it — or possibly this sentiment is even stronger than you realize. At any rate, I hope you will go ahead with the matter in the spirit of the doctrine the Philadelphians have been exemplifying this week — that there are no obstacles that can make anything impossibles!

I am hurrying this note off, for I do not expect to reach Cambridge, myself, until Saturday or Sunday.

With all good wishes for your southward migration.

Sincerely yours,

Charles F. Batchelder.

7 Kirkland Street,
Cambridge.

Dear Brewster

My impulse on reading your note was to reply instanter that I couldn't do it, but I thought I ought to give the question consideration, so I have waited. But the more I reflect, the more fully I realize that I cannot do it. I have been more than half sick (a good deal of the time really ill) for a month, and I am so thoroughly used up ~~for~~ by it that

I am not fit for anything — even a note like this is a difficult effort at the best, and some days it would be impossible. Serious, careful composition, it would be idle for me to attempt.

I suppose I shall have to give up everything and spend a few weeks outdoors in a warm atmosphere — if this continent can furnish one — before I can do any work. There is no use in dragging on.

I am sorry to say no, but I am the less so from knowing that your worst in such a case as this would be better than my best.

Sincerely

Charles F. Batchelder.

April 23, 1911.

I return Allen's note. I hope his illness will not prove serious.

Robert-Bridge Farmhouse
Peterborough New Hampshire

July 23, 1913

Dear Brewster

Have you come to any conclusion in the matter of trying to get Walter Faxon into the list of Retired Fellows in the A.O.U.? I got from Sage a copy of the record of the acceptance of his resignation in 1904, and it makes it plain that

there was no irregularity in proceeding that would justify the argument that he was still a Fellow. Consequently we should have to elect him a Fellow before retiring him. Doubtless enthusiastic supporters of other candidates for Fellowship would oppose this, because in the ordinary course of events a year would be lost by the workings of the machinery of election and retirement, — election being by the Union &

Sincerely
C. F. Batchelder

can be described in the one word 'drowsplit.'

retirement by action of the Council.

I have thought about this point a good deal, & it seems to me possible to accomplish it by the following course, - which would be perfectly legal.

(1) In the meeting of the Fellows elect Faxon a Fellow;

(2) Adjourn the meeting of the Fellows for five minutes, call a meeting of the Council, and transfer Faxon to the Retired List; adjourn the Council;

(3) Reconvene the meeting of the Fellows and proceed with the Election of Fellows. Then no one would be the worse off, and justice would be done.

This way of sandwiching a Council Meeting into the middle of a business session of the Union itself has, perhaps, never been done while an Election was in process; but we have done it again and again in expediting the progress of an amendment to the by-laws, and amendments to the by-laws are in reality more serious matters than membership elections.

I talked with Dwight this spring about the Faxon problem, and he strongly favored re-electing him, and said he would sign a nomination paper if we wanted him to. I enclose a blank for your signature, if you want to attempt the thing. Action should be taken immediately, if at all, for the time is nearly up in which it can be done.

As I don't know your Berkshire address, I am sending this to Cambridge, trusting that it will be forwarded.

I hope your summer is going well. Ours here

Butchelder — C.H. June 17.99

trifles. Well — an erratum slip will remedy the evil somewhat, as far as Durfee is concerned, but the affair sickens me — to have done such a thing after having had the work on my hands for two years!! I don't want any more catalogues.

To return to things that are nearer, and pleasanter, to me. We reached here all in good order, Tuesday morning, and have been engaged in trying to get the house into that same desirable condition. Most of the essentials are now accomplished, and we are beginning to feel at home, and to like the house, if anything,

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Seal Harbor, Maine
17. June, 1899.

Dear Deane

Thanks for your card. Isn't that an awful one, my omitting Durfee! The explanation is simple, but doesn't mend matters much. The MS. was finished before Durfee was elected; after repeated and long delays from printers, who in turn "estimated" on the job, it went to be printed while I was sick; I brought it up to date — as I fondly hoped! — from memory and memoranda while I was in bed; and I never thought of Durfee until I got your card, although I was chasing around (mentally) all the time for every possible change in addresses or other

better than we expected to. The builder has done extremely little mischief to the rough natural surroundings, and the birds do not find the house an alarming object. One of the most high-colored adult male Yellow-rumps I ever saw was hopping about on the piazza yesterday, and various other common northern species are to be seen or heard around the house. Some of them I trust may still be singing next month when you and Mrs. Drane appear. Francis H. Allen is at one of the hotels here now, and I wish he might stay until your time. Ned Rand is coming later, though, (June 26, I believe) and I fancy he may be still on hand when you come.

I enclose a bill for W. B., covering his paper in Proc. N. E. Zoöl. Club, as I don't know just where to send it, to him direct.

With our kindest regards to Mrs. Drane,

Sincerely yours,

Charles F. Batchelder.

fancy it may be necessary, as a matter of form, to hold a Council meeting now to authorize publication of the list in its present form. I see no difficulty in getting enough of the Council together at this season; though to secure a quorum it might be necessary to hold the meeting in the daytime, in Boston, at the office of some one of the members.

I suppose Bangs is away, and I don't know about Somberger; the two Allens and Jeffries have telephones in their offices (Glover Allen's days

"Bleakhouse"
Peterboro, N. H.
July 23, 1904.

Dear Deane

I'm glad to hear from you, and to hear that there is a prospect of immediate publication of the Cambridge list, though of course I am sorry to see it curtailed in any way. Under the circumstances, I agree that it is wisest to go ahead with it, and not wait for the elaborate introduction.

I don't remember just what votes the N.O.C. Council has passed in regard to the list; but I

at the Boston Soc. N.H. probably are Mon. Wed. & Friday); Bent has telephones in house & factory, and I have telephone in the house here. I shouldn't come down to such a meeting, but, if notified, would stay within call of telephone; though it is not likely there would be need of calling me to it. However, telephone rates between here and Boston & Camb. are so low (40 cts by day, 20 cts after six P.M.) that we use it a great deal.

Aside from formally authorizing the publication, and instructing certain members to take charge of the work, I see no new questions likely to arise, unless the size of the edition. As to that, the more that is left out in the way of introduction or illustrations, the less ought to be the sale of it; also the more ought to be the probability of a second (elaborated) edition. Both these are, theoretically, reasons against a very large edition. If I were guessing (it would be a pure guess) as to the right number of copies to print, I should say Six hundred (600).

One thing more: you have those samples

of paper Wheeler got for me last winter; one or two of them are pretty good, and are a fair match for the "Bird migration" paper. That should be the standard.

As to my health and the prospect for editorial work, — I am pretty well, though my strength hasn't improved at the violent rate it did in May & June, and, as far as I can foresee, I shall be fit to undertake it. I should be very glad to do so, if W. B.

wants me to. I always likes editing for him, and such occupation would be excellent for me if the printer isn't in a rush — which printers seldom are!

Hope you had a good time at Mattapoisett. Kind regards to Mrs. Deane.

Sincerely yours

C. F. Batchelder.

Batchelder, D.F.
July 23, '04.